



Daily Report

Latin America

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10 May 1988

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CCC Asks for U.S. Nonintervention in Panama

FL0305032588 Bridgetown CANA in English
1911 GMT 2 May 88

[Excerpt] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 2, CANA—Member Churches of the Caribbean Conference of Churches (CCC) have expressed support for Panamanian churches in their call for non-intervention by the United States in the country's internal affairs.

CCC member churches in the north-west Caribbean, in a statement issued by the CCC's Secretariat here, highlighted the emergency work initiated by the Protestant and Roman Catholic churches in Panama to respond to the serious shortages of food triggered by U.S. sanctions aimed at forcing military leader General Manuel Noriega from power.

After a meeting in Cuba last month, the north-west group recommended that the CCC and Caribbean churches and agencies "respond with urgency and compassion to fill the needs identified by the churches in Panama."

The meeting was attended by representatives from The Bahamas, Belize, Cuba, Haiti, Jamaica, Panama and Puerto Rico at the Matanzas Evangelical Seminary in Cuba. At a separate meeting of women from member churches in Belize, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Haiti, Antigua and Barbuda and Cuba, problems faced by women were highlighted for special attention during the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Decade. The decade begins this year with the sub-theme "Churches in Solidarity with Women."

ALADI Agreement Between Argentina, Venezuela

PY072328 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2241 GMT
6 May 88

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 6 May (EFE)—The governments of Argentina and Venezuela today concluded the negotiation of their first economic agreement within ALADI.

The permanent representatives of Argentina, Ricardo Campero, and of Venezuela, Luis La Corte, signed the integration document at ALADI headquarters in Montevideo.

The two countries agreed to grant mutual tariff concessions that will benefit broad economic sectors such as agroindustrial production, industrial inputs, and the manufacturing sector.

According to diplomatic sources, the automobile industry sector received the largest share of concessions because it creates favorable conditions for better economic integration.

The document signed between Argentina and Venezuela includes a specific chapter on economic integration programs that stimulates both public and private investments and favors industrial development, the official source added.

The Argentine-Venezuelan agreement concludes the negotiation that began in April 1986 in Buenos Aires, and establishes the agriculture-related, automobile, aluminum, chemical-petrochemical, mechanical, maritime, and steel industries as preferential sectors.

The agreement replaces one signed within the former Latin American Free Trade Association (LAFTA), and includes current tariff concessions within the 1980 Montevideo Treaty created by ALADI. [passage omitted]

Pacific Fisheries Symposium Opens in Chile

PY091943 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
1700 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] Today in Vina del Mar Foreign Minister Ricardo Garcia inaugurated the southwest Pacific International Symposium on Fisheries and Living Resources. The event will last until 13 May and is organized by the South Pacific Permanent Commission, which is comprised of Chile, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia.

The purpose of the meeting is the broad exchange of information and experience on fishing problems and the resources of the sea and to strengthen the international cooperation and inter-relationships in these areas. Nearly 200 experts participated in the event, 100 of them foreigners.

In his address to the forum, Minister Garcia said that the current volume of fishing in the southwest Pacific is the most important economic and social resource available to coastal towns.

Garcia said that the international symposium is a demonstration of the benefits that can be obtained when we unite our efforts in support of regional initiatives. The minister emphasized that the same is applicable to all areas of our common activities and interests, and that the idea of working together, sincerely and deeply united in the search for benefits common to our peoples, must be reiterated and confirmed.

Joaquin Fonseca from Colombia, secretary general of the South Pacific Permanent Commission, participated in the event, among other authorities.

Cuba

PDRY Party Leader Al-Bid, Delegation End Visit

Tours Isle of Youth

FL0905141888 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP, accompanied by Osmani Cienfuegos, member of the PCC Politburo, and Armando Manresa, member of the Central Committee and first secretary of the party on the Isle of Youth, has visited centers of historic and economic interest and met with Yemeni students in the special municipality.

Among the places visited were the historic Modelo Prison, presently a museum of the revolution, and the Circular Cuatro, places where Cuban revolutionaries were incarcerated in various stages of the struggle. They were able to note the development of the ceramic industry at the largest dish factory in the country, the Third Party Congress factory.

Finally, they met with Yemeni youths who are being trained in internationalist schools. Some 200 of them are mid-level students.

Visits Livestock Facility

FL0905150588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] Qasim 'Abd al-Rabb, member of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of its Control and Review Committee, has visited the Valles de Picadura special livestock breeding program. Omar Iser Mojena, Central Committee member and vice chairman of the Control and Review Committee, and other officials of the party's provincial committee in Havana accompanied the visitor. They toured the modern breeding facility, which houses 800 calves, and the embryo transplant laboratory, where they were able to see calves born using this technique. Ramon Castro, member of the party provincial committee and director of the Valles de Picadura program, joined them. He explained the efforts carried out in the center to improve cattle.

Cooperation Agreements Signed

FL0905135088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC, and 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], have attended a ceremony in which several cooperation protocols were signed between Cuba and the PDRY.

The agreements include cooperation between various Cuban and PDRY mass organizations, and collaboration in the legal sphere and the work of the Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples and friendship associations of the two countries.

The protocols were signed by Cuban and Yemeni leaders of various areas of cooperation.

Later, in line with a decision of the Presidium of the PDRY's People's Supreme Council, Al-Bid decorated Osmani Cienfuegos, member of the PCC Politburo, with the 30 November Independence Order during a ceremony in which Fidel was present. The secretary general of the YSP also bestowed the Friendship With the People's Order on representatives of Cuban internationalists and workers who have contributed to the economic, social, health, and defense development of the Middle Eastern country.

Speaking on behalf of those who were decorated, Osmani Cienfuegos noted what a high honor it is to receive the 30 November Independence Order which, he said, constitutes a symbol of the struggles and victories of the Yemeni people.

Castro and Al-Bid congratulated the group of workers who were honored with the Friendship With the People's Order. The PDRY recognized the Cubans who have helped in the development of bilateral relations.

Castro at Departure

FL0905180488 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 May 88

[Report by Gisela Bel Heredia]

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee, this morning bid farewell to 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP, who concluded an official friendly visit to our country that began on Thursday.

The party leader from the PDRY carried out a program of activities that included official talks co-chaired with the commander in chief. These talks underscored the level of relations achieved by the two parties and peoples. Fidel and Al-Bid attended the signing last night of six cooperation agreements and a protocol aimed at strengthening the ties of friendship and solidarity between the two nations. Along these lines, documents were signed by the Cuban and PDRY justice ministers, Juan Escalona Reguera and 'Abd al-Wasi Salim, respectively, concerning juridical and judicial assistance in civilian matters. Meanwhile, Vilma Espin and Aidah 'Ali Sa'id, the top representatives of the Cuban and PDRY women's organizations, respectively, signed a cooperation agreement between the FMC [Federation of Cuban Women] and its PDRY counterpart.

Agreements were also signed between the Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples and the Cuban-Arab Friendship Association, and the Yemeni-Cuban Friendship Association, and between the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution and the People's Defense Committees. The top leaders of our National Association of Small Farmers and the PDRY's small farmers federation also signed cooperation agreements, as did the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples and the Yemeni peace and solidarity council.

The Yemeni delegation visited Santiago de Cuba Province, the Isle of Youth, and places of interest in various fields. On the very day of his arrival, Al-Bid was decorated by the commander in chief with the Playa Giron Order in recognition of his stance against imperialism and neocolonialism, and his friendship with Cuba, its people, and its revolution.

Rodriguez in Mexico; Meets With De la Madrid

FL0905234988 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 12300 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, and Miguel de la Madrid, Mexican president, today held a working meeting.

During the course of the meeting at the official residence, Los Pinos, the high-level Cuban leader discussed his recent trip to Brazil and the highlights of his two visits.

The two statesmen discussed the situation in Central America and Latin America in general, said Carlos Rafael to PRENSA LATINA upon his departure from Los Pinos—where he arrived after a private visit to Mexico City—shortly before his return to Havana.

Further on Meeting

FL1005012588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 May 88

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, today ended a private visit to Mexico City where he met with the Mexican president, Miguel de la Madrid.

During the meeting, the two statesmen discussed the situation in Central America and Latin America in general.

Carlos Rafael briefed De la Madrid on the existing situation in Angola and the negotiating process that is developing with reference to the situation in southern Africa.

The two leaders also discussed the progress of relations between Cuba and Mexico, the international situation, and the U.S. electoral process and its implications for the region.

Holds News Conference

FL1005025788 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 0232 GMT 10 May 88

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, granted a news conference in Mexico City during which he stressed the importance of Latin American and Caribbean unity to defend regional interests through a common organization.

He then spoke about the conflict of interests existing between Latin America and the United States. He stressed that the interventionist policy of Ronald Reagan has been defeated in Lebanon, Central America, Nicaragua, and all of Latin America.

In speaking to journalists, Carlos Rafael referred to such topics as the foreign debt, Cuba's readmission to the OAS and incorporation into the Group of Eight, and Cuban-Mexican relations.

The Cuban vice president said that Cuban-Mexican relations are excellent and very balanced. He praised the Mexican Government's Central American policy and the recent joint trade agreements.

Carlos Rafael later said that after the upcoming elections in Mexico, when President Miguel de la Madrid is not as busy, talks on a possible trip to Havana will be resumed.

The Cuban vice president told journalists that there are no plans for an immediate visit by Cuban President Fidel Castro to the Republic of Mexico.

Carlos Rafael arrived in Mexico last Saturday from Peru after visiting Brazil.

Viera on Third World Role in Disarmament Talks

FL0705015088 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] A forum on disarmament, peace, and development sponsored by the Cuban UN Association ended in Havana today with a lecture given by Jose Raul Viera, first vice foreign minister. Viera noted the inseparable nature of the concepts of development and peace and highlighted the progress made in the disarmament negotiations taking place between the Soviet Union and the United States.

[Begin Viera recording] Third World countries need to present their own demands, requirements, and ideas to contribute to those negotiations because everyone's interests are at play when disarmament is discussed. The disarmament meeting, the Nonaligned Movement ministerial meeting on disarmament will be held here in Havana at the end of (the year). This meeting will play an important role with regard to this matter. [end recording]

Arias 'Foreign Policy Blunder' Viewed
PA0805134288 Havana International Service
in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 May 88

["Our America" commentary by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] In a recent report to the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly, President Oscar Arias said he was proud of his work as head of state, successes and mistakes notwithstanding.

The Arias administration is now 2 years old, and although the president may have some reason to express pride, one cannot consider his entire administration an impeccable one. At least that is the opinion of many of his countrymen, who are dissatisfied because the president is still unable to resuscitate the ailing national economy.

As for foreign policy, despite being the creator and principal backer of the Central American peace plan, it seems the Costa Rican president was unable to escape the U.S. Administration's pressures. He allowed the United States to use Costa Rican territory to provide supplies to the anti-Nicaraguan mercenaries.

After holding a long meeting with Morris Busby, Ronald Reagan's special envoy to the region, Arias defended the use of his country for so-called humanitarian aid to the counterrevolutionaries, giving the coup de grace when he added that it was an honor to serve such a cause.

In any case, the Costa Rican president's Nobel Peace Prize was already becoming tarnished after he allowed a contingent of U.S. troops to be stationed in an area dangerously close to Panama, under the pretext that they were carrying out construction work. Several Costa Rican analysts and politicians believe the objective of keeping the U.S. troops in Costa Rican territory was to get the country's population accustomed to this undesirable presence, which would later facilitate the occupation of Costa Rica.

Regardless of this speculation, the fact remains that the U.S. troops are still in Costa Rica. Their presence, aside from causing well-known annoyance, has created a wave of discontent because of the seriousness of the Central American situation in general and of Panama in particular.

No one can rule out the possibility that the bridges and highways the U.S. soldiers build could serve in the future as a road for aggression against neighboring countries, especially by reviving the strategy of the so-called low-intensity conflicts, in which Costa Rica seems to have been assigned a special role.

President Oscar Arias has therefore committed a dangerous foreign policy blunder. In addition, as we said earlier, he is unable to solve the domestic economic crisis and social discontent, both problems caused by the bad handling of various situations.

The conflict is becoming serious because small- and medium-size farmers are threatening to destroy imported raw materials if there is no change in economic policy, established to a great extent by the IMF. Another problem is the difference between salaries and prices, with the imbalance increasing every day.

President Arias' problems seem to be greater than his successes as he begins his 3d year in office.

FMLN War-Injured Arrive for Medical Care
FL0505165088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 May 88

[Text] A group of war-injured of the FMLN arrived early this morning in our country for medical care and rehabilitation by Cuban specialists.

Twenty-nine FMLN combatants came from San Salvador to Havana by virtue of the Geneva and Panama agreements signed in October 1986. This group, the fifth one to arrive in Havana, was able to leave the country thanks to the efforts of the International Red Cross and the Salvadoran Catholic Church in a joint effort with the FMLN leadership. More than 60 comrades in similar conditions remain in the Central American country because the government does not allow them to leave, thus violating international agreements. Officials from the PCC Central Committee America Department, Red Cross members, and a delegation of Cuban medical specialists, as well as Salvadoran combatants who receive care in our country, went early this morning to the Jose Marti Airport to meet this group of war-injured combatants from the FMLN.

Espin Views Social Prevention Committee's Work
FL0505021388 Havana Television Service
in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 May 88

[Text] Vilma Espin, member of the PCC Politburo, described as encouraging the work of the National Social Prevention and Attention Committee created 18 months ago. The committee held its second plenum today. A report gives an objective account of the work performed in 1 and 1/2 years of operation. Society has noticed the work carried out in the municipalities, according to the characteristics of each area, in an effort to find new solutions to problems affecting the community.

Very positive actions and concrete responses have been seen in the territories. The work carried out with the new generations, especially with youths who neither go to school nor work, has been the focus of the efforts of organizations and organs which compose the committee. This has allowed a good number of young people who

left the national education system to go back to vocational schools. Those who found it impossible to continue going to school have joined the apprenticeship movement.

Committee members noted the material difficulties which still prevail in behavior schools and said work is being done to change this situation. It will improve gradually when new centers are built, especially in Havana, where they are needed the most. Another subject analyzed was the attention required with regard to the problem of what to do with leisure time and recreation for the population, mainly for young people. It was pointed out that although there have been positive results, the fact that options need to take into account the various preferences still has to be stressed. The participants of the meeting also dealt with job placement of former inmates and their adequate social attention so that they can rejoin society.

Production Quality Seen as Continuing Problem

*FL0305203988 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 May 88*

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is a fact that no country that wants to develop can do so if its production does not make it possible to increase its real purchasing power on a sustained basis. We must produce to actively participate in world trade and also, in our case, to participate in the international socialist labor division.

However, it is not enough just to produce; it must also be done in sufficient amounts and with the quality required.

There is an old saying: Manna does not fall from heaven.

That is why the slogan that calls us to produce more and better with less is not just a simple slogan, as some believe it to be.

Understanding this message, we must now ask ourselves: What is happening to the quality of our products? Are our products something that can truly be included among the country's traditional exports? Can our products substitute for imports?

We must acknowledge that we have advanced in this area, but not all of us are progressing. We should not always try to blame technological problems for the lack of advancement. There is some of this; that is true. There are, however, a few problems resulting from bad quality, which is essentially caused by indolence, the lack of requirements, and other factors that are absolutely subjective.

To state it clearly, we still lack an ethic and culture of producing with quality. This is true, just as it is true that as long as we do not acquire this ethic and this culture,

we will not resolve the problem. It is in this direction that we should channel our work. We should struggle decidedly against tolerance and shoddiness which inevitably creates conformity. That which is sanctionable should not simply be left to rhetoric.

Official on Electrical Transformer Production

*FL0505161988 Havana Radio Reloj Network
in Spanish 1432 GMT 5 May 88*

[Text] Engineer Homero Aguilar, deputy director of production of the Havana Electrical Transmission and Distribution Enterprise, has reported that the 361 transformers manufactured in the country last year are operating without any difficulties. He said that this equipment has an average price of \$385 on the international market. Producing them in the country results in a savings of \$245.

The engineer added that it was not until 1987 that national production became committed to manufacturing transformers because of the need for providing electricity, especially in the eastern provinces.

He said that this year, approximately 1,000 of the 15-kw transformers will be manufactured and during the following year 5,000 of the 15-, 25-, 30-, 37-, and 50-kw kind will be manufactured once a transformer manufacturing plant has been constructed here in Havana.

Health Official Warns Public on Venereal Disease

*FL0305205088 Santo Domingo Radio Popular
in Spanish 0930 GMT 3 May 88*

[Text] Venereal diseases have doubled in Cuba in the last 6 years, basically because of sexual promiscuity, and of 46 women with AIDS, 45 were infected by their husbands, according to official data. In 1981, 3,621 cases of syphilis and 19,616 cases of gonorrhea were recorded. These went up, respectively, to 8,563 and 36,076 cases in 1987; in other words, 83.2 people out of every 100 and 350.6 out of every 100,000 inhabitants. [figures as heard] The information came from the Public Health Ministry, which has undertaken a campaign to change the sexual habits of the population because it believes sexual behavior is the basic factor behind the contagion rate.

Speaking on television, Health Vice Minister Hector Terry warned that the rise in venereal disease is a danger to the population and leads to the spread of AIDS, a disease that has claimed 7 victims in Cuba, with 205 people identified as AIDS carriers: 159 men and 46 women, 163 of them heterosexuals.

Cuban health authorities want to keep tabs on the whole sexually active population, and up to 4 April they have carried out 2 million tests and examined 130,000 pregnant women. One woman gave birth to a child with the virus.

Briefs

Firefighting Directorate Changes

The Firefighting Directorate, as of today, will be called the Fire Protection General Directorate [Dirección General de Protección Contra Incendios]. The unit has also adopted a new structure in order to become more efficient in handling fires and disasters. [Excerpt] [FL0405150788 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 May 88]

Bahamas

Pindling Speaks on Drug, Corruption Allegations

FL0905222288 Nassau Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 8 May 88

[Speech by Prime Minister Lynden Pindling; place not given—live, monitored in progress]

[Text] ... and refines no drugs. To be compared with a major producer of opium, heroin, and marijuana, such as Mexico, and with the world's third ranking illicit producer of coca and the largest clandestine manufacturer and distributor, Colombia, and with other drug countries, is absolutely outrageous.

Over the last 2 years, at least 400 stories on drugs in the Bahamas have appeared in the American press. In the same period, over 50 more articles have been written about drug-related corruption. Most of these appear in March and April and both the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives consider resolutions to decertify countries identified as producers of drugs, manufacturers of drugs, or the country [words indistinct] for drugs. But we have the facts and we challenge any nation in the Western Hemisphere to match on a per capita basis their efforts against ours in the fight against drugs. We challenge those few but vocal perpetrators in the United States who persist in misconstruing the facts or who are unwilling to listen to anyone but convicted felons seeking mercy from the courts or attention from the press.

There are those who, in an exercise based more on politics than on policy, have conveniently resorted to bashing the Bahamas. We challenge them, along with those who are not yet ready to meet the task of combating the demand for drugs in the United States to come forth to meet face to face with representatives of the Government of the Bahamas who have the responsibility for setting and implementing law enforcement policies and then debate our performance, be it on our shores or on theirs.

Today, fellow Bahamians, by this broadcast I commence our efforts to set the record straight. The Government of the Bahamas has authorized the preparation and release in the United States and the Caribbean of a full-page statement that will set the record straight on a number of critical issues surrounding the trafficking of drugs to our

country from the drug-producing nations in South America to our closest neighbor, the United States where the demand for drugs is the highest in the world. In preparing this unprecedented response, we took special care to bring up and clarify many of the outstanding points of misinformation and the fabrications of the possible within the available space. The government has taken this bold initiative because as the duly elected representatives of the Bahamian people, we deem it our duty to defend the integrity and the sovereignty of our country.

Our country, by any social, political, or economic measure you choose to use, is the most successful small nation on earth. We are not perfect but measure for measure we are as good as any nation on this earth. The Bahamas is a shining example of a country that has successfully evolved over 259 years of representative government from colonialism to stable and progressive independence. A model of the kind of country large foreign governments, particularly the United States, are spending billions of dollars to encourage and develop in places like Afghanistan, Pakistan, El Salvador, Honduras, Lebanon, Egypt, Nicaragua, and Panama, indeed all over the world.

We are not a banana republic. We are not and never have been a military dictatorship. Moreover, after 14 and 1/2 years of independence close friendship with the United States has been the cornerstone of our foreign policy. Strangely, however, we get little recognition for our success. Instead, the attention we receive centers around drug trafficking and its attendant evils. This is doubly strange since our accusers know that the size, scope, sophistication, and wealth of the international drug trade dwarf the limited resources of our 250,000 people.

There are 700 islands and keys which make up our archipelago scattered over 70,000 square miles, about twice the size of the state of Florida and almost 14 times the size of Jamaica and these extending some 500 miles in the world's most beautiful and clear waters and a near perfect climate from Bimini to the Turks and Caicos Islands, about the distance from Georgia to Key West. Despite our small population, we have 1,600 policemen and 670 marines. All face the difficult law enforcement task of controlling 73 private and public air strips as well as 110 small boat harbors, which usually are heaven for peaceful and the law-abiding tourist. Everybody knows that surveillance and the law enforcement of our vast area is a monumental task and everybody knows that if it was not for drugs going through our country to the United States, our police and our marines would be sufficient for maintaining law and order.

We have cooperated 100 percent with all parties wishing to help us. Just listen to what some of our friends have said.

As recorded in the United States Congressional record of April 14th of this year, Admiral P.A. Yost, commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard, credits the Bahamas, and I quote him: In the drug interdiction program, the Bahamas is superior to any other country, end quote.

Mr John C. Whitehead, acting secretary of state, is quoted in the same record. Cooperation in 1987, he said, between United States and Bahamian law enforcement agencies has been excellent, end quote.

And on the same date, the United States commissioner of customs, Mr William von Rabb, was quoted that: The cooperation we've received in our day-to-day interdiction operations from the Bahamas is far greater than any other country in the Western Hemisphere, end quote.

We have also put our money where our mouths are. We currently expend more on law enforcement than our tourism, our most important (?industry). [Words indistinct] is responsible for two-thirds of the gross national product, 70 percent of employment, and nearly all foreign exchange earnings. The Bahamas expends fully 13 percent of its national budget on law enforcement.

Such expenditures would be unnecessary but for the drug trafficking problem.

The Bahamas is the only country in the world which allows unlimited hot pursuit of drug traffickers by United States agencies carried out in cooperation with Bahamian law enforcement officers in Bahamian waters and in Bahamian air space. Bahamian and American law officers participate in helicopter strike force teams which pursue and arrest transiting traffickers.

No country, not even the United States, can honestly say that the enormous lure of profits from the movement of drugs has not taken its toll on the morality of some of its citizens.

Allegations of corruption remain a serious concern but we have no more to answer for than other countries including America.

It has been said by some in the United States that there would be no drugs entering and being trafficked to the Bahamas if high-government officials were not permitting it. Well, consider this for the sake of argument.

Would not the same thing be true of Florida? What high government officials in Florida are being paid bribes to permit drugs transiting the Bahamas to enter the hundreds of public and private airfields and the hundreds and hundreds of harbors and marinas in Florida?

You will recall that in 1983 when allegations of drug corruption among government officials were made in the international media, it prompted an immediate inquiry. My government called for an independent panel to investigate all allegations. This commission of inquiry was given wide-ranging terms of reference including the extraordinary power to take hearsay evidence and to arrive at conclusions based on a balance of probabilities rather than the usual conventional criminal law test of beyond a reasonable doubt.

Despite continued references in the press to the allegations already investigated by the commission, no new evidence with the slightest credibility has been forthcoming. Still, we hear the same allegations of very doubtful credibility and which are 8 and 9 years old. They are repeated today as if the events took place yesterday.

Now you will have heard of George William Baron, III, the witness who fabricated certain off-the-wall allegations about me and the deputy prime minister in the recent Carlos Lehder trial in Florida.

I know Baron lied [words indistinct] and I believe he lied for several reasons.

One, I believe Baron lied because he paid somebody in 1980 to get him off the Bahamas stop list and when he wasn't taken off the stop list, he thought it was our fault.

Two, I believe Baron lied because some people in the United States who claim that F.N. Bowe is a close friend of mine but do not know that F.A. Bowe is my close friend—and they don't know the difference between the two cousins—want Baron to connect me with F.N. Bowe, who I know of course, but is no close friend.

Three, I believe Baron lied because he wanted criminal charges against his mother and his father dropped so that each would not have to spend 20 years in jail.

And four, I believe Baron lied because he wanted to get as light a sentence as 10 years imprisonment for his own crimes to which he has pleaded guilty and for which the penalty was life imprisonment plus 145 years and he wasn't going to be sentenced either until after he had testified to someone's satisfaction.

The attorney general of the Bahamas [Paul Adderley] has requested the United States attorney general, Mr Edwin Meese, to make Baron available to the Bahamian police for questioning but he has received no favorable response as yet. Indeed, Mr Adderley has requested time and time again the United States attorney general to supply him with information of any Bahamian official the United States believes to be involved in corruption, no matter how improbable the accusations or how dubious or false the accusations. And no information has been forthcoming. The fact has now come to be recognized in official congressional circles that took the time to find out the truth.

In addressing his colleagues in the Senate on April 14th, Utah Senator Orrin Hatch echoes our frustration in these matters. Quoting him, the assistant secretary of state for international narcotics matters testified both in the Senate and the House that there is absolutely no evidence of such corruption by high Bahamian officials. The Bahamian attorney general has turned over a big (?file). The

Bahamian attorney general has on more than one occasion asked our Justice Department to turn over any evidence so that investigations and, if warranted, indictments could be brought. To date no response has been received, end quote.

And Acting Secretary of State John Whitehead also acknowledged that, and I'm quoting him, the Bahamian Government appears to be moving in the right direction to address the problem. Two special drug courts should relieve the over-burdened legal system. The police internal corruption unit has investigated and presented cases for prosecution, end quote.

On our part, we have already passed laws providing for the freezing and forfeiture of the proceeds from drug trafficking and the assets of convicted drug traffickers.

The British Government, which has a similar law enforced in England, recently agreed with the Bahamian Government for the reciprocal enforcement of forfeiture orders in our respective countries. For some time now we have requested the same reciprocity with the United States but the United States Government has yet to respond.

A mutual legal assistance treaty requested by the United States on a country-to-country basis has been agreed and ratified in the Bahamas by implementing legislation passed in parliament but we are still waiting for ratification by the United States. Negotiations on a new and stronger extradition between the United States and the Bahamas have been under consideration for a number of years. This treaty has been agreed on by the Bahamian Government but, here again, we are waiting for a response by the United States.

And we have not stopped there. Last week the Bahamas requested that the United Nations International Narcotics Control Board send a mission to the Bahamas to study and report on the nature of our drug trafficking problems to enable the Bahamas to obtain the necessary system from the international community under the 1961 convention on narcotic drugs.

These are some of the main reasons why I believe that much of the thunder of some American senators and congressmen is the [words indistinct] of politics, to detract from the absence of a comprehensive policy. These are some of the reasons why I believe that all the talk about indictment is largely press speculation generated by provocative law officers eager to win the spotlight in an election year. These are some of the reasons why I say that any indictment by any grand jury, anywhere in America, would be a gross miscarriage of justice and a serious breach of faith on the part of the United States Government.

Although the Bahamas are small and relatively unimportant in America's global concept, we still believe that she meant what she said and will honor both the letter and

the spirit of the treaty which calls for the mutual exchange of information on criminal matters. If, therefore, there really was in existence some credible evidence upon which to found an indictment, that evidence should have been communicated by now. And in addition to all that, there are, of course, very important considerations of international law and relations that cannot be discounted.

The Bahamas is committed to the war against drug trafficking to our beautiful country. We intend to win that war but it is clear that more technology, manpower, and operational funding is necessary to police our extensive borders. We in the Bahamas have done what America has not yet done in spite of the seriousness of the drug issue around the world and the lack of success in the war to date. The Bahamas has put its Armed Forces into the battle against drugs.

Surely, there can be no doubt that a similar commitment by the United States to employ its Navy and other forces in the war against drugs would greatly reduce the supply, flow, and demand, not only to the Bahamas but also throughout the United States.

What we need to more effectively fight the war against drug trafficking are more air search radar installations, more joint bases strategically located with helicopter strike force teams, more air reconnaissance patrols, more (?sea) patrols, and intensify joint undercover and conspiracy investigations.

But, with or without help, we will improve our own lookout capabilities at stations at Inagua, Cay Lobos, Bird Rock, Castle Island, San Salvador, Hope Town, Hole in the Wall, Great Isaacs, and Stirrup Key. These were where our light houses and our light stations were. They once lit our shores so that passers-by could see us from afar and not run aground and wreck on our rocky shores. With radar in them, they will now light up passers-by so that we can see them from afar and prevent them from wrecking us and running us into the ground.

We will teach America to fight the war against drug trafficking like it is a real war involving life and death, which it is. We plead with her to increase, not reduce as she has done, her financial appropriations for her Coast Guard. Instead of reducing the number of ships on patrol, we need her to increase them. Her Coast Guard should be joined by her naval vessels to block the flow of drugs through the Windward Passage and the Caicos Passage and to throw a protective ring around southeast Florida through the Florida Straits from Key West to Daytona Beach. Her Air Force jets, based in Homestead, Florida, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, should be used to spot, chase, and force to land suspected trafficking aircraft which drop their drug cargos at sea. Then more, fast, naval patrol boats should then be used to fish the dumped dropped cargos from the sea to prevent their falling into the hands of the drug traffickers. And we implore America to begin to take positive steps to reduce

the demand in America for the consumption of drugs by taking steps to pursue, arrest, and prosecute, like we do here in the Bahamas, the casual users and abusers of drugs.

We say to her in the words of Longfellow, like Winston Churchill once did, put your confidence in us. Give us your faith and your blessing and under providence all will be well. We shall not fail or falter. We shall not weaken or starve. Neither the sudden shock of battle nor the long-drawn piles of vigilance and exertion will wear us down. Give us the tools and we will finish the job.

Thank you.

Barbados

Sandiford on Party Members' Criticism of Budget
FL0605202988 Bridgetown CANA in English
1742 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, May 6, CANA—Barbados Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford on Thursday night hinted that three government parliamentarians who criticised his 1988 budget may face disciplinary action at the party level.

"I have no power of discipline over any member of the Democratic Labour Party [DLP]. That power is vested in the organs of the DLP, particularly the general council..." Sandiford told an induction ceremony for new DLP members.

On Tuesday, Former Finance Minister Dr Richie Haynes and backbenchers Richard Byer and Peter Miller abstained during the parliamentary vote on the budget, after arguing it represented a reversal of the election-winning low tax policies of the party.

Dr Haynes was the harshest critic, terming the budget which imposed BDS110 million dollars (one BDS dollar—50 U.S. cents) in new taxation, a "backstreet abortion."

Sandiford maintained on Thursday night that the DLP had not broken any promises made to the electorate in the campaign for the 1986 general election.

"Sometimes, some of our own may not quite understand. In those instances...it is the responsibility of the rest of us to explain to them," he said.

Last year, the DLP expelled three members, including a former minister, Dr Rameses Caddle, for flouting party policy by their decision to run as independents against endorsed DLP candidates at the polls.

Haiti

Manigat on Dominican Visitors, Domestic Policy
FL0905211588 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale
in Creole 1030 GMT 9 May 88

[Excerpts] Two delegations from the Dominican Republic arrived in Port-au-Prince on Saturday, 7 May. The two delegations were met at the international airport's diplomatic waiting room by Senate President Dr Louis Noisin.

The first delegation is headed by Mr Juan Diaz, the press director of Tele Antillas. With Diaz are Executive Manager Luis Gonzalez Fabra and Mr (Marcelo Super Castro). This delegation's visit falls within the framework of Haitian-Dominican relations.

According to Diaz, they are going to do everything they can to help the Haitian laborers, who live under awful conditions in the Dominican Republic. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] [Noisin] Two groups have arrived. One is a group from the Dominican television station Tele Antillas. They have a very interesting program entitled "Uno Mas Uno" which all Dominicans watch every morning. It is they who interviewed me in the Dominican Republic the last time I was there, when I went to the Latin American congress [not further identified]. They had expressed a desire to come to Haiti to see for themselves how things were unfolding. They also wanted to meet with the president. That is why I asked the president if he could receive them. They are to meet with him today. Haiti and the Dominican Republic share an island. There must be communication between us, so that we can both, each on his side, develop harmoniously.

[Reporter] In your opinion, how can this delegation, as members of the media, help our country?

[Noisin, in Spanish] Mr Diaz, he is asking how your television station, in its capacity as a member of the media, can help to maintain or facilitate closer relations between our two countries?

[Diaz, in Spanish] Well, in many ways. The first way is for us to disseminate broader, deeper, more serious information about the situation in both our countries, emphasizing the basic aspects of brotherhood and solidarity between two nations that share a single island. Also, by promoting social and economic development, solidarity, and the exercise of democracy among our peoples. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Two delegations arrived today. The second delegation was comprised of Mr (Enrique Reyes Carrion), the head of the delegation, and Mrs (Rufina Rodriguez). This delegation is here in connection with a tourist project that reaches from Cap Haitien all the way to the Bay of

Manzanillo. This is a big project, with possibilities for investment by both foreign countries and Haiti. Then we talked about other things. Let's listen:

[Begin recording] [Reporter, in Spanish] Mr (Reyes), can you tell us the reason for this visit?

[(Reyes), in Spanish] [Passage omitted] We are interested in discussing with the president of Haiti the possibility of (?creating) an area of international development within the Caribbean Basin plan, the industrial city "Hong Kong of the Caribbean," and a tourist project. We want (?to discuss) tourist development from Cap Haitien to the bay of Fort Liberte.

Our company, the Monte Cristi Corporation [preceding name in English] is developing the industrial city "Hong Kong of the Caribbean" in Manzanillo Bay, on the Dominican side of the border, as well as tourist projects in Monte Cristi bay. We intend to develop these same projects on the Haitian side, with participation by both foreign and Haitian investors. [passage omitted] [end recording]

The delegation met with President Manigat at 1500. The president gave Tele Antillas an hour-long interview during which he discussed Haiti's problems: the toxic waste, the high cost of living, and other problems.

Afterward, we interviewed President Manigat. Let's listen to what he said to us:

[Begin recording] [Manigat] [Passage omitted] Senate President Noisin accompanied two different delegations from the Dominican Republic here. One is a delegation of journalists; the other is a delegation that is not yet official but which is nevertheless made up of people who are involved in the relations between the two countries, including people who are very close collaborators of President Balaguer.

We just gave the Tele Antillas journalists an interview. [passage omitted] We said that there had to be a new attitude in the relations between the two countries. The Dominicans must stop considering the Haitians inferior. [passage omitted]

Second, I pointed out that there have never been any problems between the two countries' top leaders. [passage omitted] It is the masses that are the victims of this kind of thing. Thus there is a problem of educating the elites that needs to be addressed, so that they will look upon the masses differently. [passage omitted]

We made a general survey of the situation, and we explained to the Dominicans that we feel we must have the courage to look the problems straight in the face. Once we have done this, each will defend his own

national interests, but we will do this in a spirit not of differences and recriminations but in a spirit of seeking solutions that will be good for both communities. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] President Manigat, before we go: From 7 February to 7 May 1988—3 months of government. What does this mean to you, especially after a period marked by political and social turmoil and so forth?

[Manigat] Don't worry. On the occasion of our first 100 days in office—that is, in 10 days—we will draw up a balance for the Haitian people. [passage omitted] We will tell the people exactly what we have done in the past 3 months, during these 100 days. We will tell them why the government was obliged to do what it did, explaining why it was normal for us to have begun in this way. We will also present the results and the prospects. [passage omitted]

There have been changes in the country. Look at the cabinet. Look at the prime minister. Look at all the work they are doing. Look at all the organic laws. Look at the decisions we have taken so far. Look at how we are combating smuggling. Friends, there are lots of things that have changed in Haiti. Look at how we are combating corruption. [passage omitted]

Everyone can see that we, that I, have engaged the country along the right path. Of course, it is true that the problem of insecurity has returned. But this isn't our fault [words indistinct] Ah, no! We are not the ones who desire a return to insecurity. On the contrary, the insecurity works against the government. We want security in Haiti. We are working on it. We have drawn up a detailed plan through which to work on security. [passage omitted]

There is a little something I would like to add, since you are presenting me with the opportunity to do so. Friend, I cannot imagine what is wrong with the minds of those who think that by creating insecurity, they can destabilize the government so that they can overthrow it. I have just one little thing to say in this connection: The people who can stop this government from serving out its 5 years in power have not yet been born. [end recording]

New Newspaper Reported in Cap Haitien
FL0505223388 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale
in French 0100 GMT 5 May 88

[Report from Cap Haitien correspondent (Norelus Elima)]

[Excerpt] [Words indistinct] today the first issue of the periodical LE PHARE D'HAITI. The name of its manager is (Ernst Ais), a former employee of the Ministry of Information.

Among the articles contained in this first issue are "Political Duel Without a Winner," about the general elections for the position of deputy for the 6th electoral district, Delmas—an election whose results remain contested; "No More Yes-Men Deputies," "President Manigat: A Four-Wheel-Drive Vehicle," "French Cooperation: 12 Million Gourdes for Haiti," and so forth.

LE PHARE D'HAITI devotes a lot of space in its first issue to politics. It is a forum for opinion, a newspaper that comments, analyzes, asks questions, and makes suggestions. This first issue carries an editorial entitled "Our Raison d'Etre." Here is an excerpt of the editorial:

LE PHARE's ambition is to be the light that dissipates the darkness of incomprehension; the beacon that, on the stormy seas of ambition, prejudice, and hatred, points the way to harmony and fraternal cooperation; the point of reference that, in the jungle of egotism and individualism, points the way toward common progress. [passage omitted]

The periodical is already making a place for itself on the market in Cap Haitien and other parts of the department. [passage omitted]

Agriculture Officials Discuss Aid Agreement
FL0705032588 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale
in French 0100 GMT 6 May

[Text] The heads of the technical departments of the Ministry of Agriculture met Wednesday, 4 May, at Damien [School of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine of the National University of Haiti] with Mr (Maurice Brochard), French representative of the Cooperation Aid Fund [Fond d'Aide de Cooperation], FAC, for the Caribbean and special representative of the French Association of Volunteers for Progress [Association Francaise des Volontaires du Progres, AFVP]. The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen the cooperation foundation between the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Rural Development and Environment and the AFVP.

The representatives of these two institutions reviewed the clauses of the accord linking the Haitian Government to this international organization and evaluated the work already carried out within the framework of this cooperation.

New structures will be created within the Natural Resources Division. Workshops where gabions and lattice-work fencing are to be produced will be set up on site in the areas where soil conservation work is being carried out.

In the area of animal husbandry, the AFVP will help the ministry in its initiatives with a view to repopulating Haiti with rustic pigs, creole pigs.

Rice Supply Delayed; Refined Sugar Available
FL0905171288 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole
in French 1600 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] The rice ordered by the Haitian Government will arrive late. The Ministry of Industry and Commerce announces that this rice, which was expected to arrive in Haiti in early May, will not arrive on the expected date.

This delay is due to certain administrative procedures which did not allow for the release in time of the funds necessary to import the rice, says the Ministry of Industry. As concerns the central bank, for example, the letter of credit failed to go out at the right time.

The ministry asks the association of small merchants, with which it has an agreement for the distribution of this product, and the vendors who have received purchase cards, to please be patient for another 15 days. In 15 days they will be able to buy rice at the government store.

As soon as the order arrives, the ministry will inform the public as to the formalities to be complied with, in order to encourage rice purchases and thwart attempts by speculators to hoard the rice.

The ministry also announces that part of the refined sugar ordered by the Haitian Government is already available at the government store at the price of 150 gourdes per 110-lb sack.

The ministry says that it wishes to remind the public that these measures are part of its policy to control prices and reduce the cost of living.

Peasants' 1 May March in L'Estere Not Held
FL0505212088 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter
in Creole 2000 GMT 4 May 88

[Excerpts] More than 350 peasants had gone out into the streets to demonstrate in L'Estere, but the army there did not let them hold the demonstration. Nevertheless, they went to the headquarters of the CATH/CLAT [Autonomous Haitian Workers Central affiliated with the Latin American Central Organization of Workers], where some of them spoke. Let's listen to a report from two of our correspondents in the lower Artibonite:

As announced in the press, a big march had been organized in L'Estere today, on the occasion of 1 May, the festival of agriculture and labor. More than 300 peasants gathered at L'Estere's Catholic church at around 0700 to celebrate a big mass before the march. After the mass, the peasants went out on the streets. The military authorities in L'Estere asked the peasants to go home. That is why the march did not take place. The sergeant told the peasants that he had orders from Colonel Gambetta Hyppolite forbidding any demonstration.

The peasants, who were already mobilized, then went to CATH/CLAT headquarters to reflect together upon 1 May. Many important things were discussed.

The peasants said their principal concern was to find land to farm.

There were many signs in the streets, and we were able to read some of them: The peasants need land to farm. The peasants ask for creole pigs. We are asking for water to drink and to farm with. We ask the Agriculture Ministry to allow us to benefit from the gift Japan gave them, because it is we who must work the land.

The peasants also said that they could not celebrate while their brothers suffered in the Dominican sugar camps, while brother peasants suffered in Beau Champ, while peasants in Jean-Rabel died, while the peasants of the MPP [Papaye Peasants Movement] in Papaye were being harassed.

The peasants added: If 1 May is the festival of agriculture, and if our country is essentially agricultural, why are there so many of us who can't obtain food today? Why is there all this imported food in the marketplaces of Haiti? [passage omitted]

At around 1100 [words indistinct] sent a message telling the peasants they could hold the march. The colonel said they could march as long as they were not carrying machetes or clubs. The peasants felt this was a game for children. [passage omitted]

Cap Haitien Vendors Protest Customs Measures
FL0505215688 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter
in Creole 2000 GMT 4 May 88

[Excerpt] The correspondent from Cap Haitien informs us that the police rained blows on a group of small vendors demonstrating on the wharf in Cap Haitien because of the measures the government has just taken regarding the way customs handles merchandise from overseas.

These vendors were demonstrating against the measures taken by Cap Haitien customs. They are having trouble getting the merchandise they ordered from abroad. [passage omitted]

Trinidad and Tobago

NAR Members To Discuss Party Conflict
FL0605204088 Bridgetown CANA in English 1755 GMT
6 May 88

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, May 6, CANA—Three dissident parliamentarians belonging to ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR), left for New York on Friday to discuss the internal party crisis with Trinidad and Tobago nationals resident in the U.S. city.

Former External Affairs Minister and deputy NAR leader, Basdeo Panday, former Public Utilities Minister Kelvin Ramnath, and Junior Finance Minister Trevor Sudama, are travelling at the invitation of the Regal Club, a group of Trinidadian nationals living in the United States.

The three were sacked as ministers by Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson in a cabinet reshuffle earlier this year.

Ramnath said the Regal Club had extended its invitation because nationals living abroad were curious and concerned about the apparent split in the ruling party. Speaking earlier this week to supporters in central Trinidad, Ramnath had charged that Robinson had overstepped his authority as party leader and suggested that he be ousted.

When you have such a person in an organization, you have an obligation to get rid of that person, Ramnath said.

The three, along with John Humphrey who also was sacked in the cabinet reshuffle last year, have formed Club 88, a group within the NAR.

Ramnath said before leaving that the trip to New York coincided with activities to mark the 150th anniversary of the emigration of East Indians to the Western Hemisphere.

When we went there last time, there was a great ray of hope with prospects of coming back, said Ramnath, who last visited New York for a September 1987 investment tour.

Commenting on the impact of the infighting inside the NAR on foreign investment, he said: I think that Robinson, by his own action, has been responsible for investors not being interested.

If he was concerned about foreign investment, he (Robinson) would never have done what he did, Ramnath told CANA.

Speaking on another public platform earlier this week, Ramnath said the group of ex-ministers had no intention of leaving the NAR.

We have a responsibility to do everything possible to save the party. The world of politics for us did not end when one man took the decision to remove the four government ministers, Ramnath told supporters in Central Trinidad.

That was not the action of the party but the action of one man who assumed constitutional authority over and above moral authority that is invested in him as leader of the party.

El Salvador

Coprefa on Results of FMLN Transport Stoppage

PA0705020388 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU
in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 May 88

[Coprefa report]

[Text] Six vehicles were destroyed and 11 damaged as a result of the transportation stoppage.

Six private vehicles were completely destroyed after terrorist groups set them on fire. Another seven had their tires shot out, two others were machinegunned, while two others were damaged by street barricades erected during the FMLN's 3-day nationwide transportation boycott.

According to official reports, the incidents occurred mainly in Jiquilisco, Usulután, Metapán, Santa Ana, and in the metropolitan area of San Salvador.

The terrorist attacks did not cause any casualties. However, there was a large amount of property damage, which only hurts the many workers who support their families.

In another action, FMLN rebels kidnapped peasant Miguel Angel Gonzalez in Los Horcones canton, Berlin, Usulután Department. According to his relatives, his whereabouts are unknown.

Meanwhile, Agustin Castro, 59, died yesterday when he stepped on a mine placed by terrorists in Lagunetas canton, Coatepeque jurisdiction, Santa Ana Department.

In addition, Second Lieutenant Roberto Gomez Martinez, a member of the National Police's Pantera Battalion, was shot during a guerrilla attack on military positions in Suchitoto, Cuscatlán Department. According to military sources, the attack, which occurred last night at 2330, was repelled, resulting in several FMLN casualties.

Meanwhile, the Atlacatl Battalion reported that two terrorists were killed during a clash with subversive groups near San Fernando, Chalatenango Department.

In another action, an FMLN extremist died during a clash with Engineering Military Detachment troops near Agua Zarca Canton, in Zacatecoluca, La Paz Department, where soldiers confiscated one M-16 rifle with its ammunition and other war materiel.

Electric System Losses From Sabotage Reported

PA0605224788 San Salvador Canal Seis Television
in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 May

[Text] During the past few years of war, the guerrillas carried out a total of 2,477 attacks on the electricity system, official sources reported today.

Colonel Carlos Melendez, adviser to the presidency of the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL, said that as a result of rebel sabotage on the power system, 654 towers of primary and secondary lines throughout the country have been destroyed.

According to Melendez, the damage caused by sabotage on the country's electrical infrastructure from 1980 to 1987 amounted to \$51 million. He added that during the first 3 months of this year, rebel sabotage has resulted in a loss estimated at \$1.9 million due to the destruction of at least 38 main electricity towers.

Regarding damage caused during the third ground transportation stoppage, Melendez said that during the first 2 days, nine 115,000-watt lines and two other 46,000-watt lines have been destroyed in various parts of the country.

Defense Minister Speaks on Soldier's Day

PA0805041988 San Salvador Cadena Cuscatlán
in Spanish 1630 GMT 7 May 88

[Speech by Defense Minister General Eugenio Vides Casanova on occasion of Soldier's Day at the Gerardo Barrios Military Academy near San Salvador on 7 May—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Our Armed Forces are an institution that in these historic times must fulfill extremely important functions: defend the nation's independence against internal and external enemies, and maintain and protect essential and everlasting principles, defending these principles from ideologies and doctrines that only seek the well-being of the current generation while forgetting the aspirations and achievements of past generations and ignoring the rights of future generations.

Messrs cadets, the most important duty of each soldier is to love the fatherland, because by loving it we can defend and serve it. [passage omitted]

Love of fatherland is patriotism which embodies a profound concept of loyalty and allegiance to the traditions that unite us above whatever divides us. Because the fatherland is a composite of territory and population, we are duty-bound to love both the land and the human beings who live in it. From this we derive the duty to defend its territory and to be the guarantor of the human rights of all its inhabitants. In fulfilling these duties, we place the fatherland's interest above any individual or group interest. The defense of the freedom of all citizens is essential. It is a fundamental duty, because that freedom signifies the freedom of each family and each citizen, and no one can consider himself free if the fatherland is enslaved. That is why it is essential that we promote and strengthen at all levels the norms of discipline, loyalty, subordination, morality, and obedience, all essential aspects that regulate our military life. [passage omitted]

Our Armed Forces will be as strong as the sum of the efforts of all its members. That is why one of the main objectives of the command must be to strengthen and increase this unity, which must be based on doctrinaire principles, strict discipline, healthy tradition, and a high spirit of sacrifice, inspired by the example given by the comrades in arms who have given up their lives in defense of the fatherland. [passage omitted]

We know voices will be heard trying to discredit the institution or its members, trying to create uncertainty and confusion, trying to undermine our courage and our faith in our people and our present and future possibilities. However, those objectives and goals will not create rifts, divisions, distrust, or suspicion among us, nor will they weaken our people who, supporting us, will make sure that our country will continue to be strong, free, and independent. Our unity must lead to trust and loyalty. There must not be two paths, one for the one who commands and another for the one who obeys. We must live those principles at all times in each of our actions, because they are fundamental pillars that will enable the institution to fulfill its historic destiny. [passage omitted]

Our Armed Forces have carried out and will continue to carry out their constitutional activity with a high sense of professionalism. We know well what our duties are, and we are aware of the difficulties along the long path that still lies ahead. Nevertheless, we are prepared to overcome all the obstacles that this entails, and once again we accept the historic challenge with the certainty that we will fulfill our duty. Our actions will confirm our words, and the people will be our main judge. Their impartial judgment will grant us the right to continue receiving the support, respect, and affection of our fellow citizens.

Our Armed Forces, like the nation to which we belong, are aware of the difficulties we must face in the coming years. We know we will be the target of attacks and defamations in an attempt to undermine our unity and harmony. As defense minister, I know it is hard for all of us to fulfill our mission in such a strife-torn time. Because of the unrestricted freedoms granted to all citizens by the democratic system, we are exposed to constant criticism, sometimes justifiably, other times unjustifiably. However, criticism is always borne in mind with utmost prudence, discretion, and the necessary resoluteness, even though some of these critics might be unaware of the way that we fulfill our mission. [passage omitted]

We made a commitment before the people and the entire world that we would support the democratic process in our country. To achieve that objective, we have resolutely and impartially supported five electoral processes, contributing our best efforts and trying enthusiastically to overcome the limitations and obstacles that have arisen, because we are sure that today more than ever the work that the institution must carry out within a constitutional framework acquires particular importance for our fatherland's destiny.

With our support, the Salvadoran people have understood the advantages of choosing between the freedom of the ballot box and the oppression of terrorist weapons. The efforts and sacrifices that the people have had to make in the past five electoral processes are unquestionable proof of that understanding and a clear demonstration that we are creating a solid democratic process in which we are all obliged to participate as a step that shows our civic maturity. [passage omitted]

I urge all members of the institution to continue with a firm and sure step to support democracy and to improve respect for human rights every day and our ability to achieve the military objectives until we achieve peace, which is so strongly desired by the Salvadoran people. That is why I cordially urge you to continue maintaining a strong, homogeneous, and dynamic unity so that, contributing our best efforts, we will do our part to achieve the nation's essential goals. That is the reason for our commitment to continue to work unceasingly to make the Armed Forces increasingly apolitical, to maintain its position of subordination, of not having decisionmaking power [no deliberacion], of obedience, of respect for military doctrine, and of support for the democratic process.

The armed institution will no longer be an island within the Salvadoran nation. As the sole depository of the Republic's weapons, it must maintain close communication with the people, seeking by every means to strengthen the unity and harmony of all Salvadorans. In this way, we can together march forward with faith and optimism until we achieve, with the greatest united efforts, a balanced development with the greatest possible security.

With our eyes set on the higher ideal of rescuing and bringing peace to our nation first of all, and of creating a better fatherland for the present and future generations, we must try to achieve the strongest unity between civilians and military men. We must work shoulder to shoulder to lay the foundations for a tomorrow based on the respect for the basic rights of the individual and the peaceful and harmonious coexistence of all Salvadorans. Firmly united at all levels, the institution will be the unassailable barrier against the divisive forces that want power for groups of people who still do not understand the historic future of our fatherland.

Exactly 5 years ago, in this same place, we made the commitment to continue to maintain the pure, profound, and correct mandate of the High Command, and therefore of all the Armed Forces, to respect the human rights of all Salvadorans. In this regard, we have achieved very significant advances. Despite this, we are aware that there is still much to be done. We have viewed with real concern the increase of violence in recent months. That is why we want our position on the respect

for human rights to continue to be strengthened. We will continue to orient all our efforts in that direction so that we can grant greater security and tranquillity to the Salvadoran people.

We will also continue to provide all our support to the institutions in charge of imparting justice in order to definitively eradicate cowardly and criminal actions, regardless of where they might originate. We will be unmerciful in the achievement of that objective, regardless of the sacrifices we might have to make. The Salvadoran people can be sure that nothing and no one will prevent us from fulfilling our constitutional duty. We have strictly applied the law when we have had proof that some member of the institution has been involved in human rights violations. In these cases, they have been discharged and turned over to the appropriate courts. I can assure you that we will continue to be inflexible against those who, making bad use of their uniform, discredit and tarnish the image of the armed institution. [passage omitted]

FMLN Commanders on Reports of Death, Operation
PA0705170888 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos
in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 6 May 88

[interview with FMLN Commanders Jorge Melendez, alias Jonas, and Francisco Mena Sandoval, alias Manolo, political-military chief and operations chief, respectively, of the Francisco Sanchez Northwestern Front, by unidentified reporter; date, place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] The Armed Forces High Command and Colonel Emilio Ponce, chief of the 3d Infantry Brigade, have made statements about "Operation Perquin," which began in this department on 23 April. Col Ponce says both of you died in clashes. This has been published by Coprefa and confirmed by Col Ponce. What is your opinion of this obsession?

[Melendez] The report that two revolutionary commanders were killed has two aspects. One of them is the permanent psychological war, which consists of inventing a series of false incidents to maintain their troops' morale. These reports are later denied, as in the cases of reports that Comrades Joaquin Villalobos, Ferman Cienfuegos, [name indistinct], and Mena Sandoval were killed. This is a permanent practice, but these reports are later denied. The Army's irresponsibility is exposed, but the soldiers are not always aware of this fact, which allows the Army to keep them in the dark about their totally false victory reports. Meanwhile, the Army also causes an impact on the less informed sectors of the population, giving a distorted picture of the situation. The other aspect, and this refers specifically to Ponce's statements, is his failure to achieve positive results as a commander; it seems as if he is dealing with a debate within the Army and as if he is trying to prove his tactics and plans have brought results. He has absolutely nothing to show, however; his tactics have been totally

fruitless, cowardly, and ineffective. I would say that in addition to being irresponsible and (?absurd), the Army's actions are aimed primarily at an internal Army debate, [words indistinct] to evaluate the operation implemented by Col Ponce. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Col Ponce stated in a report that the FMLN suffered 19 deaths during this operation and that the Army suffered only 2. Commander Mena Sandoval, what is the truth about the results of this operation?

[Mena Sandoval] First, I believe tactical efficiency has to be judged; this judgment should be based upon concrete evidence. The information Col Ponce has reported states that we are casualties. Well, here we are, more alive than ever, and Col Ponce is guilty of another lie. It would be ridiculous for me to deny once again, a third time, that I am dead. That would be ridiculous. It is also ridiculous of Col Ponce to say that 19 FMLN fighters have been killed. There can be no doubt that he is not trying to inform us of this; he must surely be saying it to a group of military commanders opposed to him for several reasons. He is trying to score points by making false reports. The reported 19 deaths are another of his lies. We have suffered three deaths during this operation. This means that if Col Ponce wants to use us to make a joke out of the entire issue, I suggest that he report five deaths. This would be closer to the truth, at least. The 19 deaths and the figures of wounded rebels are a lie. His message is directed at the Army. He is trying to create a victory with false information. That is the tactic he is using.

In reality, as Comrade Jonas said, we have seen new things in this operation. For example, there is the Honduran Army's participation. This, of course, is a new element. We have also seen a series of groups running from one place to another, not in victory but in defeat. In some clashes it has been impossible to try to use more than one tactic against them. I believe the Army's tactics are not characterized by secrecy. That everything has been done secretly and that they have maintained their cohesiveness is also a lie. The only thing they have done is avoid contact with us. So, where is the triumph? Where is the victory? Where is the efficiency of these tactics? If Ponce does not offer concrete proof of the dead and wounded the Army has inflicted on our troops, I believe it will be impossible to say this operation has been an Army success.

[Reporter] How many casualties have been inflicted on the Army during "Operation Perquin"?

[Mena Sandoval] Perhaps after we have made these statements, the Army will make a specific announcement. If Ponce wants to give specific figures about the dead and wounded he has actually suffered, I feel he must think about this carefully. The soldiers and officers who have listened to our statements must know the truth. Perhaps they have been deceived, but I do not think that is the case. Ponce is strong, and he is trying to defend a proposal made by the Army. We have specific

information that since 22 April, when we attacked his command post, where Ponce himself was wounded and his operations officer seriously wounded, we have inflicted 94 casualties. We are including four officers and another officer who was killed in an accident in [words indistinct]. We could say that we are efficient, and we [words indistinct] that as of 22 April, when we attacked the command post, they have been involved in a series of clashes. Some of these attacks have been significant ones, starting with the attack on the command post. Another significant attack was the attack on a company command in Perquin. Here we have to observe two things: It is not just a matter of [words indistinct], but their procedure to cover up the truth.

When the command post at Perquin was attacked, the officers who were in the vicinity tried to repress the people in the area and ordered the people in Perquin not to leave town. In other words, the idea was that no one was to find out there had been Army casualties. The people were not allowed out until a helicopter arrived, picked up the dead and wounded, and took them away.

But who in Perquin will not understand that the helicopter's mission showed the truth? That is one of the truths the Army hides or tries to hide. The Army tries to hide that truth by claiming they inflicted a false number of casualties on us. Just as there was an attack on the Perquin command post, there were also a number of clashes during which we inflicted casualties on both officers and soldiers. [passage omitted]

[Question indistinct]

[Melendez] (?That is why) I said that the crux of the problem [words indistinct] this war. I do not want to [words indistinct] to another thing. We have already mentioned the Honduran participation. The Honduran participation has been more or less constant, but in different forms. U.S. strategy has been to exert pressure on the Honduran Army and Government to become involved in the war in El Salvador. In the past 2 years, there have been a number of actions and facts as well as a number of [words indistinct] measures that have revealed that preparations exist to involve the Honduran Army in the Salvadoran war. By this I mean the transfer of heavy artillery to the Marcala garrison, the creation of huge ammunition reserves, and the construction of military installations. A huge military landing strip is being built. The Honduran Army has conducted special operations along the Salvadoran border in Cabanas, Usulután, and La Paz Departments. These departments are next to Chalatenango, Cabanas, San Miguel, Morazan, and La Unión Departments here in El Salvador. The Honduran Army is in fact (?operating) in guerrilla-controlled zones.

In the eastern zone, the Arce Battalion's permanent entry routes into northern areas of San Miguel and Morazan Departments are through Honduran territory. The Arce Battalion [words indistinct] based in Santa Anita village.

A Salvadoran Air Force helicopter landed there to bring supplies. Salvadoran commando units operate in (Lagarterica) in Salvadoran territory. During clashes, they receive .50-caliber and M-60 machinegun support [words indistinct] from the [name indistinct] military post on the Honduran side. Salvadoran troops have been deployed in military vehicles in the village of Santa Elena, many kilometers inside Honduran territory. Salvadoran troops have [words indistinct] the customs posts and Sabanetas coming from Honduras.

The Honduran Army's participation in these operations is becoming more direct. Another situation is also becoming clear. This is a war among Salvadorans. This is a Salvadoran war. The military commanders belong to the Salvadoran Army. By involving Honduran troops, the Honduran Army is virtually placing Honduran troops and officers under the Salvadoran Army's command. Honduran territory has virtually become an extension of the operations theater of Col Emilio Ponce, who is the head of the eastern zone.

Once again, the United States is creating another counterrevolution. It is again establishing bases so another part of Honduran territory will pass into the hands of another army. It is creating the conditions for an even deeper crisis for the Honduran Government and sovereignty. We already have four forces in this country, including the U.S. power, which is very strong. The counterrevolution is another army. The Honduran Government and Army themselves are seeing that the Salvadoran Army is gradually [words indistinct].

Moreover, the Honduran participation will not make a difference in this war. What have they been promised? First, Honduras was promised the opportunity to recover large pockets of territory; that is, the possibility of settling the border dispute. That is the U.S. promise if the Hondurans support the Salvadoran Army in this war. What the Hondurans are doing is absurd. Nothing vital exists in this territory.

The FMLN's war has spread to all Salvadoran territory. The FMLN will win the war in the cities. The war will be won there, not here.

The Honduran participation in the war will not help the Salvadoran Army. Instead, it will move the Salvadoran war into Honduran territory as the Hondurans become involved in it. Hondurans will be killed and injured. The [name indistinct], a forest preserve, will be destroyed. There will be a unnecessary [words indistinct] by the Honduran Government. [passage omitted]

Honduras

Azcona on Matta Case, Contrás, Economy
PA0905201288 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network
in Spanish 1120 GMT 9 May 88

[News conference held by President Jose Azcona Hoyo with reporters in San Pedro Sula on 7 May—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Moderator] [Name indistinct] of EL HERALDO.

[Reporter] Mr President, we would like to ask you—because there are still some doubts among the Honduran people regarding the 7 April incidents—why was Matta expelled? Was there enough evidence against him proving that he is the drug trafficking kingpin in our country?

[Azcona] I would prefer not to talk about the Matta case. Matta's extradition had been requested by several countries. I think that in the long run his summoning by U.S. justice will be beneficial for all. I would prefer not to comment any further on this case.

[Moderator] Rosemary of LA TRIBUNA.

[Rosemary] Although you may not want to answer this question, do you believe the Honduran people will be able to forgive the violation of the Constitution in Matta's case?

[Azcona] [Passage indistinct] Regarding the Constitution, I agree with many constitutional lawyers who believe the Constitution must be seen as a whole. Therefore, this case will be judged by history; we will not comment any further on the subject.

[Moderator] David Romero of [name indistinct].

[Romero] President Azcona, why were the contra leaders who signed a peace agreement with the Sandinists in Sapoa expelled?

[Azcona] That question should be directed to the contra leaders; I have nothing to do with the contra leaders. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] [name indistinct].

[Reporter] During the first week of April there was an incident with great repercussions for the country. The U.S. Embassy, through the U.S. ambassador, has asked for an indemnification of several million dollars to repair the damage to its buildings. Will the government pay that money?

[Azcona] I will tell you this. We should be clear on this. Honduras is a signatory of the Geneva Convention, which states that any damage in any country to the embassy of another country must be paid by the host country. In no way can Honduras obviate that responsibility. However, Honduras has not yet received a specific demand from the United States in that regard, so let us not get ahead of things. The warning on travel to Honduras as a dangerous country has been lifted; we are no longer among the 11 Latin American countries on that list. We are totally [word indistinct].

What is more important: It was feared that following those incidents there would be a severe economic contraction in Honduras, that the commercial activities would slow down. It seems, however, that the reverse has

happened, because commercial activities in April experienced an extraordinary movement. I must add that in April of last year tax revenues in Puerto Cortes totaled 19 million lempiras, while during the same month this year they increased to 20 million lempiras. This means that there were more [words indistinct]. Therefore, I feel that we Hondurans should view our situation in relation to other countries, not only in Central America, but in all of Latin America.

There is much talk here about the foreign debt. However, which Latin American country does not have a foreign debt problem? Some have even more problems than we have. Argentina, Brazil, Mexico—an oil exporting country—Venezuela, and also Peru have the same problem. We have a foreign debt, but we are meeting our commitments.

We have a strong currency, and I promise the Honduran people that we are not going to devalue the lempira. What we are doing now is discussing with the World Bank measures that would make it possible for the lempira—which is sold on the black market at 2 for 1 [dollar]—to be sold by the Central Bank at a rate of 2 for 1. In order to do that, we must adopt some measures, such as reducing the current expenses of the central government and decentralized institutions, which we are already doing but will have to enforce more strongly. We will also have to adopt additional measures; however, we believe that the Honduran people will react favorably because the measures will benefit all the Honduran people.

Gen Regalado on Contra Departure, Matta Case
PA0905224688 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish
9 May 88 p 8

[Excerpts] San Pedro Sula—While President Azcona told journalists that he was unaware of the expulsion of seven contra leaders from Honduras, General Humberto Regalado Hernandez, commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, confirmed that the contras traveled to the United States to meet with Adolfo Calero, leader of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN]. [passage omitted]

Following the expulsion of the contra leaders who favor a negotiated agreement with the Sandinists, Armed Forces spokesman Colonel Manuel Suarez Benavides justified the action, stating that "we do not want the contras resolving their differences in Honduras. They should resolve their internal problems outside Honduran territory."

TIEMPO asked Gen Regalado Hernandez the reason for expelling the five contra leaders. He replied:

"What I have heard is that several commanders have left the country to reach an agreement with Calero, who handles [the RN's] political matters in the United States. [quotation mark as published]

The journalist insisted: General, one of the contras said on Radio America that the DNI [Department of National Investigation] was persecuting contra leaders who signed a peace agreement with the Sandinists in Sapoa.

"I would like to know his name, because anyone here can say anything over the phone and people will believe it," Gen Regalado Hernandez said.

Another journalist asked Gen Regalado whether the Armed Forces or President Azcona had decided to expel Ramon Matta. He replied:

"I do not like to comment on Ramon Matta's case, because I am a bit disappointed. The Honduran people have not shown understanding with regard to our efforts to save the country's future from drug trafficking," he said.

Gen Regalado was asked if there was enough evidence confirming that Matta was indeed the main drug trafficking kingpin in Honduras when the decision was made to expel him from the country.

He replied: We have laws and legal experts who have given their opinions on this matter. We have nothing to say regarding that question, Gen Regalado Hernandez concluded.

Nicaragua

Ortega Welcomes Yemeni Socialist Party Leader

PA0905213588 Managua Domestic Service
in Spanish 1810 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] Mario Zelaya called from the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport early this morning to report that the president of the Republic, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, today welcomed 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], with full honors.

The YSP leader plans to stay in our country for 3 days. He will carry out several activities, including a visit to Commander Carlos Fonseca Amador's mausoleum, where he will lay a wreath. The visitor will also meet with President Daniel Ortega and hold a session with National Assembly President Commander Carlos Nunez. It is appropriate to mention that this will be a special session that all National Assembly members will attend, and Commander Nunez Tellez will deliver a speech.

'Ali Salim al-Bid will also hold a working meeting with Foreign Cooperation Minister Henry Ruiz and Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, with whom he will sign cooperation agreements.

The Yemeni leader will meet again with President Ortega shortly before his departure to sign an agreement between the YSP and the FSLN.

Panama

Official on U.S. Envoy's Plane Incident

PA0905165688 Panama City Domestic Service
in Spanish 1539 GMT 9 May 88

[Report by Jairo Posada from the Panamanian Civil Aeronautics Board]

[Text] Attention: We are at the Panamanian Civil Aeronautics Board, where a news conference held by Major Pascual Gonzalez, Civil Aeronautics Board director, has just ended.

Maj Gonzalez clarified reports issued by international press agencies concerning an incident that took place at Paitilla Airport in Panama City yesterday afternoon.

Among other things, Maj Gonzalez said four armed individuals arrived at the Paitilla Airport in a suspicious manner and were interrogated by state security agents. Gonzalez added that precisely at that time the air taxi with registry No HP-863, which seats 6 passengers, was landing at Paitilla Airport, but no one got off the plane.

At that moment, the state security agents talked to the armed individuals and through their high frequency radios apparently instructed the plane not to land and to leave the area. [sentence as heard] Maj Gonzalez added that the plane's pilot is Rigoberto Ng and that he received instructions from the security agents of U.S. Ambassador Arthur Davis on the radio.

According to Maj Gonzalez and according to the information provided by the Panamanian authorities, the passengers on the plane were Gabriel Lewis Jr, Arthur Davis, his daughter, an unidentified minor, and a security agent.

Maj Gonzalez said that apparently the passengers on the plane were afraid to get off in our territory and continued to a U.S. military airport, where they landed a few minutes later.

Maj Gonzalez denied that the Panamanian authorities tried to hijack the plane or kidnap those who were on board and who described the incident as a robbery or a hijacking, and that the Panamanian authorities just confirmed that the plane landed at a U.S. military base.

We are not trying to kidnap anyone and we are not persecuting anyone, Maj Gonzalez said.

There has been no communication with the U.S. Embassy so far. Last night, the Panamanian authorities requested information about the people on the plane and the incident not only from the U.S. Embassy, but also from the office of joint military coordination as established by the Torrijos-Carter Treaties. Maj Gonzalez said the request has been denied.

Here comes Hugo Giraud, a young captain who owns the air taxi company. It was said that the plane was rented for four flights—two going and two coming—and that this is a regular trip to Contadora.

Captain Ng is making statements to the Panamanian authorities right now. They [not further identified] refused to give the plane back to the pilot; therefore, the Panamanian authorities will deliver a diplomatic and military claim to return the plane to the pilot and its owners, according to Maj Gonzalez.

This is the information we can give our listeners right now. We invite you to stay tuned, because we will be providing more information on this incident and other events in upcoming newscasts.

U.S. Envoy 'Fugitive'

PA1005014588 Panama City LA REPUBLICA
in Spanish 9 May 88 p 1

[Unattributed article: "Arthur Davis Hijacked and Stole an Airplane; He Is a Fugitive of the Law"]

[Excerpts] Continuing his chain of criminal actions in our country, U.S. Ambassador Arthur Davis has now resorted to hijacking a Panamanian-registered aircraft and forcing its pilot to land at a U.S. Army air base [as published] in the canal area.

Yesterday's incident is another in the long line of crimes committed by this man and his horde of conspirators, who are committing the most common and moral [as published] crimes ever committed by anyone.

Arthur Davis and those accompanying him, including his daughter Susan Davis and Gabriel Lewis Navarro, son of the unpatriotic and traitorous Gabriel Lewis Galindo, are the same people who have set up a company to assassinate respectable Panamanian citizens.

Mr Arthur Davis, the emissary of death in Panama, is now a fugitive of Panamanian justice. He has violated every law, treaty, and rule of conduct, which makes him a veritable criminal posing as a diplomat.

Fearful and for no reason at all, U.S. Ambassador to Panama Arthur Davis and those accompanying him—his daughter Susan, Gabriel Lewis Jr, a security agent, and an infant—after landing at Marcos Gelabert Airport in Paitilla from Contadora Island, hijacked the aircraft and flew to Howard Air Base in open violation of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties. [passage omitted]

Major Gonzalez, Civil Aeronautics director, told local and foreign newsmen that when the aircraft with registration No HP-863, in which Mr Arthur Davis, Mr Gabriel Lewis Jr, the ambassador's daughter, a baby girl,

and a security agent were traveling, landed, "apparently they got scared after they arrived from Contadora. I say this because an international report stated that we wanted to kidnap them."

"That is false," he stated, adding "how are we going to kidnap somebody after he spends the whole day at Contadora and returns to the country?" The ambassador decided to take the plane and leave it at Howard.

Maj Gonzalez said the pilot told him they did not allow him to return to Panama but told Mr Giraud, who owns the plane, to take the documents to get the aircraft. "These are not the legal channels for this purpose. As far as we are concerned and until the investigation ends, the plane was taken there, hijacked, forcefully stolen," he stated. [passage omitted]

[A cartoon accompanying the article shows Ambassador Davis wearing cowboy clothes with a gun around his waist walking toward a sign that reads "Quarry Heights."]

'Death Squads' 'Organized' by U.S. Embassy

PA0905135088 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish
9 May 88 pp 1, 2

[Text] Various social, political, and religious circles of our country are very angry and have condemned the action when it was learned there is a list of 220 Panamanians that would reportedly be executed by death squads organized by the U.S. Embassy and the opposition Civic Crusade.

Legislator Celso Carrizo pointed out to CRITICA that this is a new aggression and "on the verge of the abyss," as this would call for eliminating people as has been done in other Latin American countries. He added that "one never knows how this will end once it gets started" and that in some countries the bloodshed has not yet ended.

Bearing in mind that the methods of physically eliminating some citizens has not been the usual political line in Panama, it is evident that this is a matter of applying a terrorist scheme conceived by deranged individuals who have come to Panama on the pretext that they will be advising on the fastest way to topple the government of Manuel Solis Palma.

The list of 220 Panamanians has been drafted by paid assassins such as U.S. Army Major L. Matias, chief of Southern Command psychological operations, along with traitors to Panamanian nationalism such as Gabriel Lewis Galindo, Alberto Conte, and other "Panamanians." Both Matias and Conte have been working on the filthy and criminal operations along with millionaire Gabriel Lewis Galindo.

Two more paid assassins are a Dr Steve Pachetnick, who claims to be a psychiatrist and who was sent to Panama some time ago when the destabilization campaign

against the Panamanian Government and people was increasing, at which time he presented the sinister plan to Brigadier General Marc Cisneros. The list with the names of the 220 Panamanians who would be reportedly eliminated and the way in which they would be murdered was presented to the White House executive staff, who nevertheless disagreed with the plans.

However, the diabolical strength of U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams, along with the drunkard Arthur Davis and the real ambassador to Panama, John Maisto [U.S. Embassy deputy chief of mission], managed to convince the White House to become involved in this terrible plot and give the go-ahead. The list of the 220 Panamanians has been widely distributed by the U.S. Embassy in Panama to the point that it has been printed by an IBM system on 50,000 pamphlets. These pamphlets have the names of the 220 Panamanians that would be crucified without any remorse by the squads of mercenaries duly hired.

Each name of the 220 Panamanians has one or several letters—such as A, C, D, R, and S—which represent the priority of the execution and guide the way in which the assassins must eliminate their victims.

In the face of this new conspiracy against the Panamanians who have devoted their support to Panamanian nationalism and in defense of the fatherland, it is recalled that the Elliott Abrams plan is doomed to failure because there is already a list that includes several American citizens who will pay for this nefarious plan.

The following are the names of the Panamanians appearing in the list of the assassins of Davis, Maisto, Gabriel Lewis Galindo, Alberto Conte, and Elliott Abrams:

"A"

Ahumada, Adolfo (C-S); Arias, Carlos (C); Arosemena, Rafael (C); Amado, Victoria (Vicky) (C-S); Amado B., David (C-R); Norma Trevia de Amado (C-R-S); Alessandria, Antonio (C-R); Aleman Boyd, Alberto (A-C-D); Arias, Luis de Leon (C-R); Almanza Serrato, Alfonso (C-R-S); Ayala, Darien (C-R); Altamirano Duque, Tomas G. (C-R-S); Aguilar, Dalila (C); Aizpurua, Baltazar (C); Arroyo, Justo (C); Amado III, Juan Jr (C-R-S); Abadia Arias, Jorge (C-R-S); Alexander, Hector (C-R); Arias, Edgardo (C); Acosta, David (C); Arcia Dilio (C).

"B"

Boyd, Aquilino (C); Brin Martinez, Pedro (C-R); Barrera Salamanca, Juan (C); Bermudez, A. Ricardo (C-R); Barrelier, Manuel (C-R); Blanco, Luis (C-R); Barragan Maylin, Jose (C); Barragan, Roberto (C); Bultron, Rene (C); Bernal, Targidio (C); Barraza, Roberto (C); Barletta Arce, Luis A. (C-R); Barrios, Argenida de (C-R); Barletta, Gabriela Boyd de (C); Bertrand Sherit V. Nye (C).

"C"

Cupas, Tomas Alberto (C); Calvo, Escolastico (Fulele) (A-C-D-R-S); Castillo, Jose Eliseo (Cheito) (C-D); Castrejon Jr, Pablo (C); Castrejon, Arnulfo (C); Chiari de Leon, Rodolfo (A-C-R); Cortizo, Moises (A-C-D-R-S); Cal, Eros Ramiro (A-R); Castillero J., Alberto (C); Cordovez, Roberto (C-R); Cordoba, Luis (Papo) (A-C-D-R); Concepcion, Diomedes (C); Caballero, Danilo (A-C-R-S); Castillero, Jose Pio (C); Castro, Nils (C); Castillero de Carrizo, Dayra (C-S); Chan Vega, Isaac (C-D-R); Calvo, Manuel J. (C-R); Cabrera Jovane, Jose (C); Castilla Bravo, Luis (C); Carrizo, Celso (C); Constantino, Jorge C. (C); Carrizo, Dalys Castillero (D-C); Calvo, Jose Manuel (C-D-R).

"D"

Del Cid, Luis (A-C-D-R-S); Duque, Carlos (C-D-R-S); Deleuze Ducasa, Gabriela (C-S); Dominguez, Rafael A. (C-R); Dumanoir, Rogelio (C-R); De Diego, Mario (C-R); Diaz, Gabriel (C-D-R); Ducasa, Salvador (A-C-R); Diaz, Ricardo (C-R); De Icaza, Nestor (A-C-D-R-S); Diaz Arjona, Maria del Carmen (C); Dominguez Suarez, Bernardo (C); Dominguez, Joel (C); Ducasa, Manuel (A-C-R); Damian, Isabel (C-S); De Sedas, Carlos (C); Escobar Bethancourt, Romulo (C-R); Espino, Darinel (C); Eskilsen Arias, Raul (C).

"F-G"

Fernandez Espino, Rafael (C); Gutierrez, Leovigildo (C-R); Gonzalez de la Barrera, Dario (C-R); Garcia de Paredes, Enelda (De Icaza) (C); Gonzalez, Pascual (A-C-D-R-S); Gonzalez, Gerardo (C-R); Garcia Mayorga, Carlos (C-R); Gozaine, Camilo (A-C-D-R-S); Gomez, Luis (A-C-R-S); Giraud, Hugo (C-R); Garcia, Carlos (Cayito) (A-C-D-R-S); Goodin K., Orville (C); Gonzalez, Gustavo (C); Galego, Rosa Roman (C).

"H"

Herrera, Nagelis (C-R); Hinds, Willie (C); Harris, Julio (C); Herrera, Ovigildo Manuel (C); Hanono, Isaac (C-R); Hanono, Victor (C-R).

"I"

Icaza, Harmodio (Moyo) (C-R); Illueca S., Jorge (C-R); Icaza, Nestor de (Juan Carrete) (A-C-D-R-S).

"J"

Justine, Marcos (A-C-D-R-S); Jaen, Marcelino (C-R).

"L"

Lopez Tirone, Humberto (A-C-R); Lasso de Espino, Mireya (C-S); Leyton, Roberto (C); Lopez Guevara, Alfredo (C); Lopez, Edgardo (C-D-R-S).

"M"

Murgas, Ruben (C); Murgas, Rolando (C-R); Marin, Eduardo (C); Muffruh, Stanley (C); Medrano, Juan (C-R); Mangravita, Fortunato (C); Melo, Arturo (C-R); Montenegro D., Raul (C-R); Montenegro D., Rey (C); Moreno, Boris (A-C-R); Macharaviaya, Alfredo (C-R); Madrinan, Nivaldo (A-C-D-R-S); Mina, Angel (A-C-D-R-S); Martinez, Luis Manuel (C-D-S); Martinez, Puente Mario (C); Murillo, Mauro (C); Martine, Eduardo (C); Martanz, Cesar; Mendendez Franco, Alvaro (C); Miranda, Otilio (C-R); Mezza, Joaquin (Chiquito) (C-D-R-S).

"N"

Nunez, Carlos Jeronimo (C-D-R-S); Navas, Luis (C-R); Noriega de Jurado, Jilma (C-R); Noriega, Manuel Antonio (A-C-D-R-S); Navas, Teodoro (A-C-R-S); Nicosia P., Hildebrando (C); Novey III, George (Porggy) (C-D-R).

"O"

Ortega, Julio (C); Ozores Typaldos, Carlos (C); Ozores, Diana Arosemena de (C-S); Orillac, Navarro Carlos (C-R); Ordenez Rolando (C); Ow Young, Julio (A-C-D-R-S); Ortiz, Silo Galo (C).

"P"

Purcalt J., Azael (C); Perez, Gustavo (C); Pere Ramos, David (C); Pere, Carlos (C); Pinzon, Carmen E. Crespo de (C); Perinan, Balbina H. de (A-C-D-R-S); Perinan, Virgilio (A-C-D-R-S); Pereira P., Ramon V. (C); Peralta, Virgilio (C); Pimentel, Luis (C); Pulice de Rodriguez, Yolanda (C-R); Pedroza, Eusebio (C); Pons, Alberto (C); Panther, Mario (C-R); Purcell, Alberto (A-C-D-R-S); Purcell, Lorenzo (A-C-D-R-S); Pereira Renato (C-D-R-S); Paredes, Rigoberto (A-C-D-R-S); Perez Balladares, Ernesto (C-R); Paz, Jaime (C); Pitty Velasquez, Nander (C-R); Perez, Enrique Bernabe; Pretelt, Enrique (C-D-R-S).

"R"

Restrepo, Luis C. (C); Royo S., Artistides (C-D-R-S); Riande, Ildefonso (C-D-R-S); Redondo, Jose Maria (C); Raymores, Franklin (C); Rognoni, Mario (C); Ritter D., Jorge (C-R); Reyes de Vasquez, Marisol (C-R); Rodriguez Maylin, Cesar (C-R); Rodriguez Auerbach, Eric (C-D-R); Rodriguez, Horacio (C); Rodriguez, Francisco (C-D-R-S).

"S"

Santana, Candelario (C); Saint Malo, Guillermo (C); Sucre, Hirisnel (C); Simmons, Jaime (C); Salas D., Eligio (C); Sieiro M., Ramon (C-D-R-S); Sieiro M., Aquilino (A-C-D-R-S); Solis Palma, Manuel (C-R); Souza, Didio (C); Sarmiento, Alejandro (C); Shaik, Julio (C-R); Salamin, Marcel (C); Salamin, Judith de (C); Suarez S., Luis Gaspar (Toti) (A-C-D-R-S); Soler, Ricaurte (C); Sanchez Cardenas, Francisco (C).

"T"

Typaldos, Mario (C); Thalassinis, Pablo A. (C-R); Tason, Marcela (C); Torrijos H., Hugo (C-D-R-S); Torrijos Richa, Hugo (C); Torrijos H., Moises (Monchi) (C-D-R-S); Torrijos de Arosemena, Berta (C-R); Tunon, Federico (C); Tunon, Alberto Luis (C-R-R); Thompson, Enrique (C).

"V"

Vasquez Chambonett, Ramiro (A-C-D-R-S); Vega, Andres (Domplin) (C-D-R-S); Villa de Flores, Ana (C-D-R-S); Vega, Guillermo (C-D-R-S); Villalaz B., Carlos Augusto (C-D-R-S); Velasquez, Alberto (Toti) (C-R); Valderrama, Augusto (C); Vega T., Ernesto (C); Vasquez M., Ricaurte (C); Vasquez, Jeanneth (C-S).

"W"

Wittgreen, Carlos (A-C-D-R-S); Wittgreen, Gaspar (C-R-S); Wilson, Jerry (C-R); Wollshosky, Ruben (C).

"Z"

Zamora, Jose (Pepe) (C).

Delvalle Airt Message on Clandestine Station
PA1005044388 Paris AFP in Spanish 0308 GMT
10 May 88

[Text] Panama City, 9 May (AFP)—Today over a clandestine radio station, deposed President Eric Delvalle urged the Panamanian people to keep faith in the "struggle to restore the constitutional system," according to parliamentary sources.

Opposition legislators said here that the former president spoke this morning on a clandestine station identifying itself as Radio Constitucional, which broadcast a weak signal at 89 mHz on the FM band.

According to the sources, Delvalle said that the Republic of Panama currently has "2 million hostages," referring to the fate of its inhabitants living under the government headed by Manuel Solis Palma, who is backed by the military.

In March, when the political crisis in Panama worsened, clandestine transmissions of Delvalle making antigovernment statements overrode broadcasts on the government-run Radio Nacional three times, and on Radio Mia, a privately owned station, twice.

The former president joined the opposition's call for the resignation of General Manuel Noriega, commander of the Panama Defense Forces, after Delvalle was removed from office by the Legislative Assembly, following his unsuccessful attempt to dismiss the top military leader from his post.

Since that time Delvalle has been in hiding in the Canal Zone under the protection of the U.S. Armed Forces, according to unofficial reports.

Association Head: Banks Operating 'Normally'
PA1005043588 Panama City Televisora Nacional
in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 May 88

[Interview with Edgardo Lasso Valdes, president of the National Banking Association, by unidentified reporter on 9 May; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr Valdes, would you please assess for us these first hours of the banks reopening with restrictions?

[Lasso Valdes] A while ago I talked with other bankers on their experiences at their banks. Without exception, they all said the banks are operating normally. Depositors have been withdrawing the interest due them according to the restrictions approved several weeks ago. The demand for cash has remained within normal limits. This indicates that the banks can continue to operate. We hope that as long as the public continues to trust the banks and accept the restrictions, the banks will gradually be able to expand their services to include other normal operations, such as [issuing] letters of credit, collections, and all the activities related to the national economy. The increased services will depend to a large extent on the public's continued trust in the banking system.

[Reporter] Even if this trust by the public continues, would the restrictions continue to be in force for 3 months? Or would it be possible to shorten this period?

[Lasso Valdes] The restrictions adopted by the Banking Commission were intended to establish a waiting period both for the banks and depositors until the banks' services could return to normal. In this first try at opening the banks after being closed for 9 weeks, the public's acceptance of this opening with restrictions has been very good. I am sure the Banking Commission could very well reconsider the waiting period or the restrictions on the movement of accounts to the extent that the public keeps trusting the banking system. This period will depend to a large extent on how the public participates in the banking activities from now on. We are very optimistic about what happened today.

Soviet Official Denies 'Communist Penetration'

PA0905002988 Panama City LA REPUBLICA
DOMINICAL in Spanish 8 May 88 pp 14-A, 8-A

[Unattributed article: "'Soviet Communism' in Panama"]

[Text] Some Panamanian news media have recently published several articles on "communist penetration" in Panama. REUTER reported from Washington that the U.S. Congress had officially questioned the U.S. President to find out if there were Soviet, Nicaraguan, or Cuban troops in Panamanian territory.

LA REPUBLICA's correspondent in Moscow [Sergey Mescheriakov] asked Ambassador Yuriy Pavlov, in charge of the First Latin American Department of the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry, to comment on the reports.

[Pavlov said:] First, I would like to point out that the USSR has no diplomatic relations with Panama. The Ministry of the Maritime Fleet of the USSR has representatives in Panama because hundreds of Soviet ships transit the Panama Canal annually. Aeroflot and the NOVOSTI and TASS press agencies also have their representatives in Panama. By invitation of the Lada automobile dealership, several Soviet specialists are working in Panama.

Panama is one of the main commercial and financial centers of the world; therefore, it is natural for the USSR, a maritime and commercial power, to have commercial interests here.

Regarding reports that there are Soviet troops in Panama, those reports are so absurd that one could smile were it not for the fact that some sectors are interested in finding a pretext to meddle in the domestic affairs of that country. I believe the Panamanians know better than anyone else what country is militarily present there and what the purpose of that presence is. Not once have Soviet ships or military planes violated Panamanian territorial waters or airspace.

If "penetration" means that Panama is aware of the USSR's foreign policy, which is designed to guarantee peace and security, that is not our fault. The entire world is aware of it, and it is impossible to keep out that kind of information with something like the "Great Wall of China," especially when it is being widely disseminated, not only by Soviet news agencies, but by the Western media as well.

Something more regarding Soviet interests: The USSR is interested in the Panama Canal—according to the Torrijos-Carter Treaties—remaining neutral, in ships of all nations being able to use it, and in the stability of this region, which should stand up against foreign intervention in Panama's internal affairs.

These are matters that only concern Panamanians themselves.

Argentina

CNEA Asked To Cut Budget 70 Million Australes
PY062134 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish
6 May 88 p 16

[Text] Yesterday the Finance Secretariat asked the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA) to slash this year's budget by 70 million australes. This figure is less than expected, and what is left will allow the nuclear plan to continue, according to CNEA officials.

Dr Renato Terigi, CNEA financial manager, explained that the budget proposed by the Finance Ministry is tantamount to "a commitment to maintain the budget at an agreed-upon level, as well as to maintain a flow of resources from the Treasury that will make it possible to continue construction of Atucha II and the Heavy Water Industrial Plant. [quotation mark as published]

Secretary Mario Brodersohn said: "We will continue negotiations to expand external financing." Brodersohn will meet with CNEA President Ema Perez Ferreira to sign the agreement papers.

Apparently, the FRG has made an offer which, if it materializes, will supplement funding from the Treasury, or exceed such funding. The CNEA will thus be able to keep its two most important projects moving so that they will be completed on schedule. The completion date for the third nuclear electricity generating plant is the second half of 1993.

The CNEA has admitted that during the first 4 months of this year, payments to local contractors have fallen behind as a result of financial difficulties. However, it was noted that this situation is likely to improve as the Treasury normalizes the transfer of funds. Also, SEGBA [Greater Buenos Aires Electrical Service], which owes the CNEA 300 million australes for electricity supplied from the Atucha I and Embalse nuclear plants, paid a portion of its debt yesterday.

As for the external resources, everything indicates that negotiations can now move faster. The CNEA head and some aides will travel to the FRG next week. From these negotiations might emerge an organizational reform in which ENACE (Argentine Nuclear Enterprise for Electricity Power Plants) would be involved.

PRC Envoy on Purchase of U.S., Argentine Wheat
PY091346 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS
in Spanish 1816 GMT 8 May 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 May (NA)—This year the PRC will maintain the level of its purchases of Argentine wheat, even if it accepts a U.S. offer and buys subsidized U.S. wheat.

These remarks were made by (Xie Rumao), charge d'affaires of PRC Embassy in Argentina, in an interview with journalists who will accompany President Raul Alfonsin on his visit to Beijing beginning 11 May.

(Rumao's) remarks calmed Argentine Government concerns that were conveyed to diplomatic circles a few weeks ago. These concerns centered on the possibility that the PRC might buy subsidized wheat from the United States and stop buying from Argentina.

(Rumao) said: "There has been no information on this decision. The amount of grain we will buy from Argentina this year will be similar to that of the previous years."

(Rumao's) remarks, however, indicate that the PRC is considering buying from the United States because he said: "There is no indication that my country will buy wheat only from the United States."

(Rumao) also commented that during his visit to Beijing, President Alfonsin will meet with the highest-ranking PRC officials, who were appointed by the 18 April People's Assembly.

(Rumao) said the agenda will include the international situation and "the promotion of bilateral relations," and that "political, economic, financial, scientific, and technical" accords will be signed at the conclusion of the talks.

He said President Raul Alfonsin's visit to the PRC has "considerable significance," adding that "we believe Argentina plays a major role in international affairs, particularly in Latin America."

He explained that one of the main topics his government will raise during the Argentine president's visit is the huge imbalance in bilateral trade.

"Even though we do not expect to reach absolute equilibrium, we expect Argentina to buy more from us, because the balance of trade is currently registering a surplus of more than \$(?300) million for Argentina," (Rumao) said, adding that in the past 10 years the accumulated trade surplus for Argentina exceeds \$2.6 billion.

He said this imbalance is caused by "the lack of mutual knowledge: Argentines do not know PRC products, and there are adjustment problems that must be jointly overcome."

(Rumao) said the PRC can offer Argentina products like coal, coke—two products which are in short supply in Argentina—oil, medicine, textiles, and our world-famous silk.

After reiterating that "bilateral relations must be promoted," (Rumao) said that "in the PRC we are now using Argentine products like food-storage facilities and brewery equipment." He said his country is interested in "Argentine leather tanning and fruit-processing technology."

Bolivia

Bedregal Named as MNR Presidential Hopeful

PY061239 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish
1130 GMT 6 May 88

[Text] The MNR has proclaimed Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal Gutierrez as its presidential hopeful during a ceremony held at the Libertad Hall at the Sheraton hotel. Bedregal Gutierrez, who was proclaimed by several MNR sectors as the man to replace Victor Paz Estenssoro as MNR leader, delivered a lengthy speech in which he said that the MNR has thus far fulfilled the mission of improving the nation that was entrusted to it by the people.

Bedregal said that the MNR will continue with the task that was initiated by Victor Paz, stressing that the MNR will win the 1989 elections because the people at large have realized that the MNR is the only Bolivian party that has confronted the crisis despite the consequences.

COB Suspends Hunger Strike, Approves 'Truce'

PY080032 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2345 GMT
7 May 88

[Excerpts] La Paz, 7 May (EFE)—Today the COB suspended the national hunger strike that has been in effect for the past 12 days by 9,000 workers throughout the country to demand government attention toward socio-economic needs.

Today the COB leadership decided to suspend the hunger strike until 17 May and approved a "truce" in the strike. [passage omitted]

The "truce" approved by the COB leadership will end in 9 days when the Bolivian Congress resumes its session to approve the national budget and the law on controlled substances, after the 1-week visit by Pope John Paul II, which starts on 9 May.

Pope Arrives in La Paz From Montevideo

PY092144 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2130 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] La Paz, 9 May (EFE)—Pope John Paul II arrived in La Paz today at 1715 (2115 GMT) from Montevideo on a 6-day visit to Bolivia.

Argentina Makes Partial Payments on Gas Debt

PY061413 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish
29 Apr 88 p 1

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal has announced that since 5 April the Argentine Government has paid Bolivia \$30 million, and it should pay another \$10 million next week.

The foreign minister said that \$10 million was paid on 5 April, another \$10 million on 18 April, and another \$10 million on 27 April. He added that another \$10 million should be paid by 6 May.

Minister Bedregal said "it was wrong" to blame Argentina alone for these financial difficulties. He then asserted: "I, as foreign minister, want to note that it was not so. We understand the Argentine situation, and we can now see that these problems can be resolved within the spirit of Latin American integration and fraternity." [passage omitted]

Brazil

Foreign Minister: PRC Trip Results 'Positive'

PY100108 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese
2200 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] Upon returning from a 7-day trip to the PRC, Foreign Minister Roberto Abreu Sodre has affirmed that Brazilian businessmen will be able to invest in that country. He held talks with the PRC president and ministers, and visited the cities of Beijing, Xi'an, (Zusui), and Shanghai. The objective of his trip was to intensify cooperation with the PRC Government in commercial, scientific, and technological areas, as well as to prepare for the trip that President Jose Sarney will make to Beijing next July.

Last night, in Rome, before he departed for Brasilia, Minister Abreu Sodre talked about the results of his trip to the PRC.

[Begin Sodre recording] I want to say that the results of my trip are very positive for the Brazilian-PRC trade balance. Firstly, I made high-level contacts with the PRC Government, and I can say that there is a great possibility for intensifying trade between Brazil and the PRC. In fact, the PRC Government is implementing a process of internal and international economic liberalization. [end recording]

From Rome, Paulo Paiva Nogueira reported.

Chile

Carvajal on Plan To 'Subvert Public Order' *PY091359 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish* 1030 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] Defense Minister Patricio Carvajal has said there are strong indications that there is a plan to subvert public order during the month before the plebiscite.

Carvajal made these remarks when asked about the plan to disturb the peace. This plan allegedly involves Cuban agents, and was uncovered in Buenos Aires. Carvajal said that confirmation of the plan was based on the statements by arrested terrorists, who have admitted having been trained in Cuba. This is obvious, he emphasized.

Carvajal said the police can control the outbursts of terrorism, but, he added, the help and cooperation of the population is also welcome.

Carvajal urged the population to report any suspicious activity. He added that any information is important and that Carabineros and the Investigative Police have telephone numbers available for such purposes.

The minister said the police would be grateful for any report on presumed terrorist acts or suspicious activities in low-income neighborhoods, and he said the police will keep the name of informants in absolute secrecy.

Gen Matthei Returns From Visit to U.S. *PY092136 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish* 1700 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] This morning General Fernando Matthei, the Chilean Air Force [FACH] commander in chief and a Government Junta member, arrived back in Chile from the United States.

The FACH commander in chief did not meet with the press upon his arrival at the international airport in Santiago.

Official FACH sources reported that Matthei immediately resumed his duties at the Diego Portales building, which is the government house.

During his visit to the United States, Gen Matthei attended a conference of air force commanders in chief in San Antonio, Texas, and then he went to Washington, where he conducted other institutional activities.

Gen Matthei also met with U.S. defense officials and with members of the FACH mission at the Chilean Embassy in the United States.

Nevertheless, Gen Matthei canceled a meeting scheduled with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Two days before Gen Matthei canceled the meeting with the U.S. secretary of state, Shultz had met with Chilean PDC [Christian Democratic Party] President Patricio Aylwin.

Colombia

ELN Releases FRG Honorary Consul; Others Held *PA0905193288 Bogota Inravisión Television* Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] In Girardota, 40 km from Medellin, Hellmuth Luecker, the FRG honorary consul in Medellin; Luis Guillermo Vallejo, a Todelar [radio network] newsmen; and Carlos Espinoza, a cameraman, who were kidnapped last week by the so-called Army of National Liberation [ELN], were all released today.

Likewise, a few minutes ago here in Bogota, in a coffee shop at the Narino center, our colleague Gloria Cecilia Gomez was released.

Those released in Medellin were taken to the University of Antioquia.

[Begin recording] [Luecker] Their main criticisms are the country's energy policies. They criticize the way concessions are granted; it is a topic that should be discussed, based on concrete facts.

[Espinoza] Well, we were released early this morning. We were blindfolded and they gave us dark glasses to wear. We traveled for quite a while; I do not know how long. We were left in some place north of the expressway. [end recording]

The rest of the people kidnapped by the ELN are expected to be released today.

Still held hostage by the ELN kidnappers are two industrialists from the Colombo-Suiza [Co.] here in Bogota, a French Embassy official, a Swedish Embassy official, Madrid's EL PAIS correspondent in Bogota, and the president of the Santander assembly. We hope they may return to their homes soon.

Among those released this morning by the ELN are Pilar Lozano and Jose Marquez from CROMOS.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Could you tell us at what time you were released?

[Lozano] We arrived in Bogota at around 1130 this morning. Very early this morning we were taken from the place we were held hostage.

[Reporter] How were you released?

[Marquez] Well, yesterday they informed us we were going to be released this morning. They woke us at 0600 this morning and we left at about 0900 in two vehicles.

[Reporter] What is the message that the ELN sends the government, Pilar?

[Lozano] They did not talk about sending a message to the government, but to the Colombian people instead. They explained to us about their policies and why they were insisting the government change its energy policy. They warned they could continue blowing up oil pipelines until it is changed.

[Reporter] Were you afraid during the kidnapping?

[Marquez] Sure, especially at the time of the kidnapping.

[Reporter] Where did you stay?

[Marquez] We were in a two-story house.

[Reporter] How were you treated, Pilar?

[Lozano] We were well-treated and well-fed, but it was boring because we were constantly being watched and we could not see the sunlight. We were locked up in an unknown place.

[Reporter] What do you think about kidnapping in Colombia?

[Lozano] Obviously it should be condemned. [end recording]

Peru

State of Emergency Extended in Provinces

PY091428 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish
1200 GMT 9 May 88

[Text] The government has extended the state of emergency for 38 days, beginning today, in several provinces of San Martin and Huanco Departments in order to reestablish public order.

The state of emergency suspends individual guarantees in accordance with clauses 7, 8, 9, 10, and 20 of Article 2 of the Constitution. The Armed Forces will continue to exercise the political-military command in the provinces where the state of emergency was extended.

The provinces where the state of emergency were extended are San Martin, (Oyobamba), Bellavista, Hualaga, Lamas, Picota, Riojas, Mariscal Ceres, and Tocache of San Martin Department, and the provinces of Leoncio Prado and Maranon and the (Cholon) district in Huanco Department.

3 Rebels Killed; 2 Bomb Attacks in Lima

PY091348 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1955 GMT
8 May 88

[Text] Lima, 8 May (EFE)—It was reported here today that three alleged "Shining Path" terrorists have died in a clash with military patrols in Apurimac Department, southeast of Lima.

The political-military command of the zone, which is in a state of emergency, has released a communique stating that the clash took place in Aymaraes Province on Friday, 6 May.

The communique, which was released in Abancay, the department's capital, located 970 km from Lima, said the clash occurred in the Cerro Condorillo zone, near the area where the patrols went following reports of the presence of subversive groups in the area.

It was also reported in Lima today that alleged "Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement" (MRTA) subversives staged two bomb attacks in the metropolitan districts of San Isidro and Jesus Maria last Saturday evening.

In one of the attacks, the terrorists placed a bomb at the door of the office of the "National Industrial Society" (SNI), while in Jesus Maria, the terrorists attacked the office of the Exporters Association (ADEX).

Both attacks caused minor damage and no casualties. Some 20 engineers were at the SNI office when the bomb went off.

Uruguay

Pope Arrives 7 May; Welcomed by Sanguinetti

PY072033 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2016 GMT
7 May 88

[Text] Montevideo, 7 May (EFE)—Pope John Paul II arrived in Montevideo at 1707 (2007 GMT) today to begin his ninth apostolic visit to Latin America, which will also include Bolivia, Peru, and Paraguay.

Pope John Paul II was welcomed at Carrasco International Airport by President Julio Maria Sanguinetti with all the honors due a chief of state.

The pope will hold a religious ceremony at the Centenario soccer field this evening, for which the church distributed 80,000 invitations. He will also deliver a speech at the Catholic University tonight.